



## Chapter 5: Genetic Testing

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### **I am not sure of the paternity of my child. What can be done?**

The Court may order genetic testing to establish paternity.

### **If the father denies paternity, what can be done?**

The Court may order genetic testing. An appointment will be made for the man, mother, and child at a laboratory. Samples of blood or other genetic matter will be taken and tested. The tests can prove that the man is not the father, or they can provide evidence that he is the father.

### **What is the process for genetic testing?**

Genetic testing may be ordered by the Court or requested by one or both parties. If a party wishes genetic testing to be performed, the party may file a Petition for Parentage Determination. The case will then be scheduled for a mediation conference where the court mediator will have the parties sign a Consent Order for Genetic Testing, or will be scheduled for a hearing with a Commissioner. The parties will then have 30 days to provide the Court with the genetic testing fee of \$46 per person (which may be subject to change). Once the Court receives payment, an appointment will be made for the parties at Labcorp.

### **How long does it take to get results?**

Results of genetic testing are usually received by the Court within 30 days of the date that ALL parties are tested.

### **How will I be notified of the results?**

The Court will notify you of the results of the genetic test by mail. Results will not be given over the telephone due to confidentiality.

### **What will happen after paternity is determined?**

After the genetic testing is completed, the parties will be scheduled for their next court proceeding, unless paternity was the only issue.